



The Arlington Advocate



CELEBRATING OUR 125 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS ARLINGTON COVERAGE 50 PAGES 3 SECTIONS



Jim and Pam Vershbow spend time with their son, Patrick, during their yard sale on Brattle Street Saturday. The event raised money for Fragile X research. Patrick has the common inherited form of mental retardation.

Small groups yield big changes

Family raises money and awareness for 'Fragile X Syndrome'

BY SARAH BOLLINGER
CORRESPONDENT

Again this year, a bevy of yellow, T-shirted bees has put together a giant yard sale, raising thousands of dollars to fund research into a little-known genetic disorder that is the most prevalent inherited form of mental retardation.

Saturday's day-long sale netted \$3,900, increasing to \$12,000 the total from three years of grassroots fund raisers arranged by the family of 4-year-old Patrick Vershbow. Patrick was diagnosed with Fragile-X Syndrome when he was 10 months old.

More than 100 friends, neighbors and strangers donated discarded homemade doll houses and hand-crocheted afghans, highchairs, crutches, plastic crates of LP records, Fisher Price toys from the 1970s, Danish-modern end tables, Lion King backpacks, mismatched dishes and kitchen appliances.

Patrick's paternal grandparents, Bruce and Dan Vershbow of Newton, joined his mother's large fourth-generation Arlington family in this effort to raise money and — more importantly — public awareness of the disorder which affects one in every 1,250 boys or 2,500 girls.

As word spread of the sale — now an annual Arlington event — various family members accepted and stored donations months in advance. For weeks, the family has sorted, priced and set out items in the yard by the Brattle Street home of Patrick's uncle, David Whitney.

From 5 a.m., Saturday, Patrick's mother, Pamela Whitney Vershbow, her husband, James, her parents, John and Ann Whitney of Washington Street, and many brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles and cousins. They all wore yellow T-shirts with the legend: "Support Fragile X Research," worked in shifts receiving last-minute merchandise brought to the curb.

SEE FRAGILE X, PAGE 7

Time to retire

Libby bids farewell after 42 years as town employee

BY BRIAN BOYD
STAFF WRITER

William Libby, the town's building inspector for more than 27 years, plans to retire July 7.

Libby, the son of an Arlington firefighter and a town employee since 1955, enjoyed contributing to a community he lived in his entire life. He started in the engineering department, constructing roads and water and sewer systems. He took over the building department in December 1969.

As the building inspector, he was responsible for insuring compliance with codes and zoning by-laws. He found himself in the middle of controversy at times.

"You're not always loved,"

Libby said. "It is very important to make consistent decisions, because a lot of zoning is interpretative. You have to treat everybody as equals."

Town Manager Donald Marquis said Libby has been a good building inspector and dedicated many years to the town. He said Libby's assistant, Michael Byrne, will take over as building inspector.

"I hate to see solid employees leave, but we all have to retire some time," Marquis said. "But with Michael coming in, I think we are in good hands."

Byrne said working under Libby was a positive and educational experience. "Bill is a great mentor," he said. "He has been super to me."

SEE LIBBY, PAGE 7

Town seeks quick redesign of bridge

BY BRIAN BOYD
STAFF WRITER

With the reconstruction of the state-maintained Park Avenue bridge set to begin Monday, Board of Selectmen Chairman Kevin Greeley agreed with concerned residents to try to find a way to improve pedestrian safety on the new bridge, without delaying its repair.

The Bicycle Advisory Committee favors constructing sidewalks on both sides of the bridge, which currently only has a sidewalk on one side. Massachusetts Highway Department officials refused to change the design, citing the lack of a sidewalk leading up to the bridge and the added costs and delays.

Sen. Robert Havern, D-Arlington, agreed to arrange a meeting between Town Manager Donald Marquis and officials from the

highway department to discuss how the plan can be altered without significantly delaying the project.

Alan Chachich of the Bicycle Advisory Committee contended having a sidewalk on only one side poses a risk for pedestrians. He told The Advocate that people have been walking on the side without a sidewalk, close to the traffic.

Chachich said the town has to either face the consequences of delaying the project, or it has to face the consequences of building a bridge without two sidewalks.

"If we are going to bite the bullet somewhere, which bullet are we going to bite?" he asked.

Greeley said he would prefer the bridge had two sidewalks, but he would not accept a delay if it meant the town would lose

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Boy calls 911

Three-year old Forest Burgess called 911 after his ill mother didn't wake up. Page 3

Taking the plunge

Summer heat got you considering a backyard pool? Read page 1A to learn what the experts say you should know.

Office closed

Our new Lexington office will be closed tomorrow for the holiday.

WORKING
A HELP WANTED SECTION WORTH EMPLOYING

Still no word on town's proposal with NESWC

BY REBECCA KENNEALLY
STAFF WRITER

This week, Arlington and the 22 other communities in the North East Solid Waste Committee once again await the proposals for an amended or extended incineration contract with Wheelabrator Environmental Systems Inc. The proposals were promised to be finished and on the way to the communities by June 30, but there is still some confusion about when the final drafts will actually arrive.

For two years, the consulting firm Environmental Futures Inc., headed by Steven Rothstein, has been negotiating on behalf of the 23 communities involved in 20-year contracts with Wheelabrator. During this time, several deadlines for the release of newly negotiated contracts were set, only to be postponed.

On June 9, Rothstein said: "June 30 is the end point. This is it." He noted how difficult it can be to get many parties to agree, and said an ending point is necessary to finalize the proposals. In an earlier discussion, however, he contradicted himself, suggesting the proposals might not go out until early July.



Town Manager Donald Marquis said he will meet with NESWC's board of directors in three weeks and review the proposed agreement. He said he has until September to tell Wheelabrator whether the town will accept the agreement.

Town Meeting voted this year to take back the authority to accept a new contract, after having given it to Marquis and the Board of Selectmen last year. Marquis said if he believes the agreement benefits the town, he will bring it before a special Town Meeting this fall.

If he declines to accept the proposed agreement, he said, he will make another agreement with Wheelabrator or another company, and bring it before Town Meeting, possibly next spring.

The existing contract, which extends through 2005, provides for the communities to have their trash burned at a North Andover plant run by Massachusetts Refusetech, Inc. The proposals would attempt to alter some major provisions. Since the inception of the incineration deal, many NESWC communities have grown increasing-

SEE NESWC, PAGE 3

TWO IN A ROW



Arlington Recreation Department Camp Adventure canoeists return borrowed canoes to the Boys and Girls Club. Andy Johnson, 11, and Jenn Gagne, 20, in front canoe, and Lizzy House, 12 and Shane Zuffante, 13, in back, walked back to camp after the returns were final.

STAFF PHOTO BY ANN RINGWOOD

INSIDE ARLINGTON

ROUNDUP

Galkowski named to association post

Deputy Town Manager Nancy Galkowski has been elected north-east regional vice president of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA).

Galkowski, who resides in Holden, will serve a three-year term commencing at the ICMA Annual Conference in September.

As an ICMA vice president, Galkowski will work closely with the executive director, president, two past presidents, and 16 fellow vice presidents to establish ICMA's direction, oversee its management, and communicate with state and affiliate local government management associations.

Galkowski brings to ICMA's executive board more than two decades of professional local government experience. Prior to her 1994 appointment as deputy town manager, she served Arlington as assistant town manager (1987-94), and as assistant to the town manager (1986-87). Galkowski also served Holden as assistant to the town manager (1982-85) and planning and research assistant (1977-82).

In 1977, Galkowski obtained her bachelor of arts degree from the University of Vermont. She went on to receive her master of governmental administration in 1987, from the University of Pennsylvania.

Founded in 1914, ICMA is the professional and educational association for more than 8,600 appointed administrators and assis-

tant administrators serving cities, counties, other local governments, and regional entities around the world.

Yard waste pickup slated for July 18

Yard Waste will be collected by BFI throughout the Town on July 18. Residents should follow the regulations as outlined in the recycling calendar. Additional yard waste pickups are scheduled for August 22 and September 19.

Library announces new summer hours

The Robbins Library will close at 5 p.m. on Thursday and will be closed Friday in observance of Independence Day. Also, the library will be closed on weekends until Labor Day.

The summer schedule is: Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

FitzMaurice gets reappointment

John A. FitzMaurice of Lakeview Road has been reappointed to the Redevelopment Board by Governor William Weld. The board has one member appointed by the state for a three-year term. The other four members are appointed by the Town Manager with the approval of the Board of Selectmen. FitzMaurice will be serving his second term, according to Planning Director Alan McClennen Jr.

SPY POND CLEANUP



Volunteers who took on the task of cleaning up the banks of Spy Pond last Saturday used trucks, cars and even canoes to haul away rubbish and debris. Above, three of the volunteers stand next to a loaded canoe. At right, a rusty bathtub proved to be the most unusual find of the day. Unconfirmed reports put the length the tub has been in the pond at 20 years. Volunteers also picked up dead animals, tree limbs, paper trash, aluminum cans and plastic bottles.



CORRECTIONS

■ Due to an editing error, last week's article on the debt exclusion recount gave an incorrect figure for the original count of "yes" votes. The recount was for the June 10 referendum question on exempting the cost of renovating the town's elementary schools from the Proposition 2 1/2 tax limit.

A "yes" vote was in favor of the debt exclusion, and a "no" vote was opposed. The original results counted 4,617 "yes" votes, and 4,633 "no" votes. The counting machines rejected 142 votes as

blanks and six for having both the "yes" and "no" slots punched.

The results of the recount were 4,659 "yes" votes and 4,693 "no" votes, a change of 102 votes. Forty votes were still counted as blanks, and the six ballots with too many votes remained the same, according to Town Clerk Corinne Rainville.

■ Due to an editing error, last week's edition of The Advocate incorrectly stated the school affiliation of Nora Mann. She is co-chair of the Dallin School PTO.

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THE ARLINGTON ADVOCATE

(USPS 031-900)

HOW TO REACH US

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INSIDE ARLINGTON

Three-year-old boy calls 911 after he cannot wake ill mother

BY BRIAN BOYD
STAFF WRITER

When a Tufts Street woman taught her three-year-old son to dial 911 in the event of an emergency, she did not expect him to remember. But Saturday, when he could not wake his ill mother, he did exactly what he was told.

Rebecca Burgess, 24, who is one-month pregnant, said Wednesday she is feeling better and believes the heat was responsible for her illness.

She said she and her husband, John, had explained to their son, Forest, what he needed to do if he

was alone at home with Burgess, and she was not feeling well or an accident occurred. She said she was impressed he learned.

"I was amazed," she said. "I didn't realize he actually comprehended when we told what to do. In fact, we never rehearsed using the phone. We told him our address. I didn't think he would remember our address."

Speaking about his actions, Forest said Wednesday that "mommy was sick," and he was scared. Burgess said she laid down in her bed Saturday afternoon because she felt ill. Three hours later, Forest tried to wake her but

could not, so he called the emergency number. Rescue workers arrived and transported her to Symmes Hospital and Medical Center.

The fire department's report said Burgess was experiencing dizziness and weakness. She said she spent the afternoon in the hospital.

Burgess said she and John had thought Forest was a bright child. She said she and Forest are performing in the Arlington Children's Theater production of "Oliver." Her son learned five songs and the choreography for the play, she said.

NESWC proposals delayed

NESWC, FROM PAGE 1

ly unhappy with their contracts, which were negotiated for them by the state.

EFI and Wheelabrator asked communities to hold town meetings in the fall of 1996 on whether or not to adopt new proposals, yet a final draft of either proposal had yet to be shown to NESWC's board of directors. Wheelabrator has said that it will give communities until September 1997 to approve the amended contracts.

Monday morning, Jim McIver, plant manager of the North Andover incinerator, said Wheelabrator and EFI were still negotiating the following points: the cost of disposing of trash per ton, or "tipping fees," who will pay for Clean Air Act mandated retrofits, estimated at \$60 million; and whether certain economic risks and responsibilities would be car-

ried by the towns or the company.

"Each party looks at the contract and continues to discuss it until the last day is over," McGivern said, adding that he thinks the communities will not see a final product until next week.

But EFI assistant Lisa Gagnon said Monday that the two sides were discussing "little details," and would complete negotiations by the end of the day. She said EFI would then mail the new contracts out to communities on July 1. But on Tuesday, July 1, Gagnon said the amendments were still being "ironed out," and was unwilling to speculate when the proposals would actually be sent.

Current clauses in the contract have caused the towns' disposal fees to escalate to nearly twice the state average, and have held the towns responsible for almost all

the costs of operating the plant, including the cost of constructing it in the early 1980s.

The amended contract—which would extend through 2005—and the extended contract—which would extend through 2015—are supposed to reduce the financial responsibilities of the communities, spread out some of their debt, and lower tipping fees, according to Rothstein.

Wheelabrator has stipulated that the amended and extended contracts will be made available only if all 23 NESWC communities sign into the new deals. Acton's NESWC representative, John Murray, has argued that the "23 or nothing" requirement is akin to "blackmail," because it pits communities against one another in the decision making process.

Brian Boyd of the Advocate staff contributed to this report.

Inspector General reviews original NESWC contract

BY ED HANNAN
STAFF WRITER

At the behest of a group of legislators, State Inspector General Robert Cerasoli's office is reviewing the original contract between the 23 communities that make up the North East Solid Waste Committee and Wheelabrator.

Spurred by the NESWC Caucus, a group of senators and representatives from the 23 cities and towns, Cerasoli's review of the original contract is part of a larger investigation of other pending contracts for solid waste management, new school construction and wastewater treatment.

"I think it's absolute necessary," said Rep. Barry Finegold, D-Andover, the caucus' House chairman. "We need more accountability and responsibility with this project and this incinerator."

"We think it's unjust that we have to pay such high prices for trash and there's no review of the balance sheets for the plant. This thing is subsidized with taxpayers'

money; we should know what they're doing."

"I think it's a good idea because there are lots of unanswered issues about the contract," said Sen. Bruce Tarr, R-Gloucester, the caucus' Senate chairman. "It's important to look at them now. We're looking at solutions and we're asking our legislative colleagues to provide funding. This contract extension will be decided this fall and communities should know whether a recommendation should be made to change the contract."

The review stemmed from a letter sent by the legislative caucus asking Cerasoli to conduct an investigation into whether there are any legal or legislative remedies to problems the communities are facing under their original contract with Wheelabrator.

"We've been asked to look into the contract and see if we can find ways to reduce costs," said Fran Brown, first assistant inspector general. "When the NESWC contract was first entered into, it was

one of the first of its kind and there may have been a lack of foresight."

Finegold asked, "How can you have something where you're paying three times the state average and why is that? If I went into Home Depot and paid \$1 for something and you went in and paid \$3, you'd be pretty upset."

Cerasoli expects to complete his study by the end of the year, but caucus members are hopeful it will be finished within the next three months.

Brown wouldn't speculate on what Cerasoli expects to find in the data that will be reviewed, including the original contract and any supporting documentation.

"It has to be determined what laws applied or did not apply at that time and whoever was responsible," Brown said. "If everything was complied with, you got stuck with a really rotten contract. If not, this office could write a letter that says the contract could be invalid because certain provisions were not met."

SMOOTH SAILING



STAFF PHOTO BY ANN RINGWOOD

From left, Perrin LaPlante, 14, Amanda Sullivan, 9, and Sarah Baldwin, 13, all of Arlington, enjoy a morning of sailing on Spy Pond Monday.

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COMMUNITY SAFETY

June 26

At 12:15 p.m., Paul V. Bianco, 33, of Grove Street was arrested and charged with assault and battery after an alleged dispute with his girlfriend.

Police responded to a report of a woman screaming. They heard screaming from the third floor of the apartment when they arrived. They found a 32-year-old woman on the floor, crying and covered with water. She said she and her boyfriend, Bianco, were arguing. She said he slapped her face, bit her left hand, and threw water and bird seed on her.

At 9:50 p.m., Peter A. Moisakis, 20, of Walnut Street was arrested and charged with driving with a suspended license following a traffic stop at the corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Mystic Street.

Police recognized his black

Ford Mustang and pulled him over. His license was suspended for failure to renew, police said.

June 27

At 6:15 p.m., James M. Hunter, 43, of Lake Street was arrested at the corner of Gardner and Fremont streets for drunk driving and operating his car without a license, according to police.

Police said they concluded he was drunk after having him recite the alphabet and take a coordination test. They conducted a computer check and learned his license expired in 1989.

At 7:25 p.m., Kevin Kelly, 40, of Weymouth was arrested and charged with assault and battery and breaking and entering, after he allegedly forced his way into his sister's home on Forest Street and fought with her husband.

Police responded to a call

about two men fighting. They spoke to both men and witnesses and learned Kelly came to his sister's house, believing there had been a fight between her and her husband. Kelly's sister answered the door. Her husband followed and yelled at Kelly that the house belonged to him. Kelly forced his way through the two and started hitting the husband, according to the report.

June 28

At 7:43 p.m., Wilkel Gedeon, 36, of Everett was arrested on Gardner Street on two counts of assault and battery, after allegedly attacking his 36-year-old wife and 8-year-old daughter.

His wife told police he forced his way into her house, saying he wanted to see his children. When his daughter came out, he slapped her legs. Police are seeking a restraining order on Gedeon.

The fire department responded to 105 calls in the past week. The calls included 42 rescues, 16 investigations, and 12 fires.

June 23

At 2:14 a.m., a 29-year-old Dorothy Road man suffered a diabetic seizure. He was coming out of his seizure, partially alert and responsive, when rescue workers arrived. They checked his vital signs and transported him to Mount Auburn Hospital in Cambridge.

At 2:40 p.m., a truck knocked down electrical wires on Park and Claremont avenues. A tall pile of debris carried by the truck caught the wires, bringing them down. Fire engines 2 and 3 responded and closed the area to traffic. Firefighters notified Boston Edison, which came to repair the damage.

June 24

At 2:27 a.m., an air-conditioning unit on the roof of Walgreen's at 324 Massachusetts Avenue caught

fire. Fire engines 2 and 4, Ladder 1, and Rescue responded. Firefighters spend an hour putting out the electrical fire, using dry chemicals.

June 25

At 4:19 p.m., a 14-year-old Coolidge Road boy injured his shoulder and face when he fell off his bicycle on Gray Street. He cut his face and possibly dislocated his shoulder. Rescue workers transported him to Symmes Hospital and Medical Center.

June 26

At 9:48 a.m., a 22-month-old Hibbert Street boy riding his Big Wheel downhill crashed into a parked truck. He received a three-inch cut on his forehead. He was transported to Symmes Hospital and Medical Center.

June 27

At 2:16 a.m., Engine 2 and Ladder 2 responded to a house fire in Winchester, returning two hours later.

A holiday reminder

The Fire and Police Services Division encourages residents to enjoy the many professional, supervised fireworks displays. Officials would like to remind residents that the possession and use of all fireworks by private citizens is illegal in Massachusetts.

This includes sparklers, party poppers, snappers, firecrackers, and cherry bombs, to name a few. It is illegal to purchase fireworks in another state and transport them into Massachusetts.

Do not purchase fireworks through the mail-order catalogues, police said. Authorities cannot prohibit distribution of these catalogues, but they can and do confiscate illegal shipments of fireworks. Many consumers attempting to circumvent the law have lost both their money and their fireworks.

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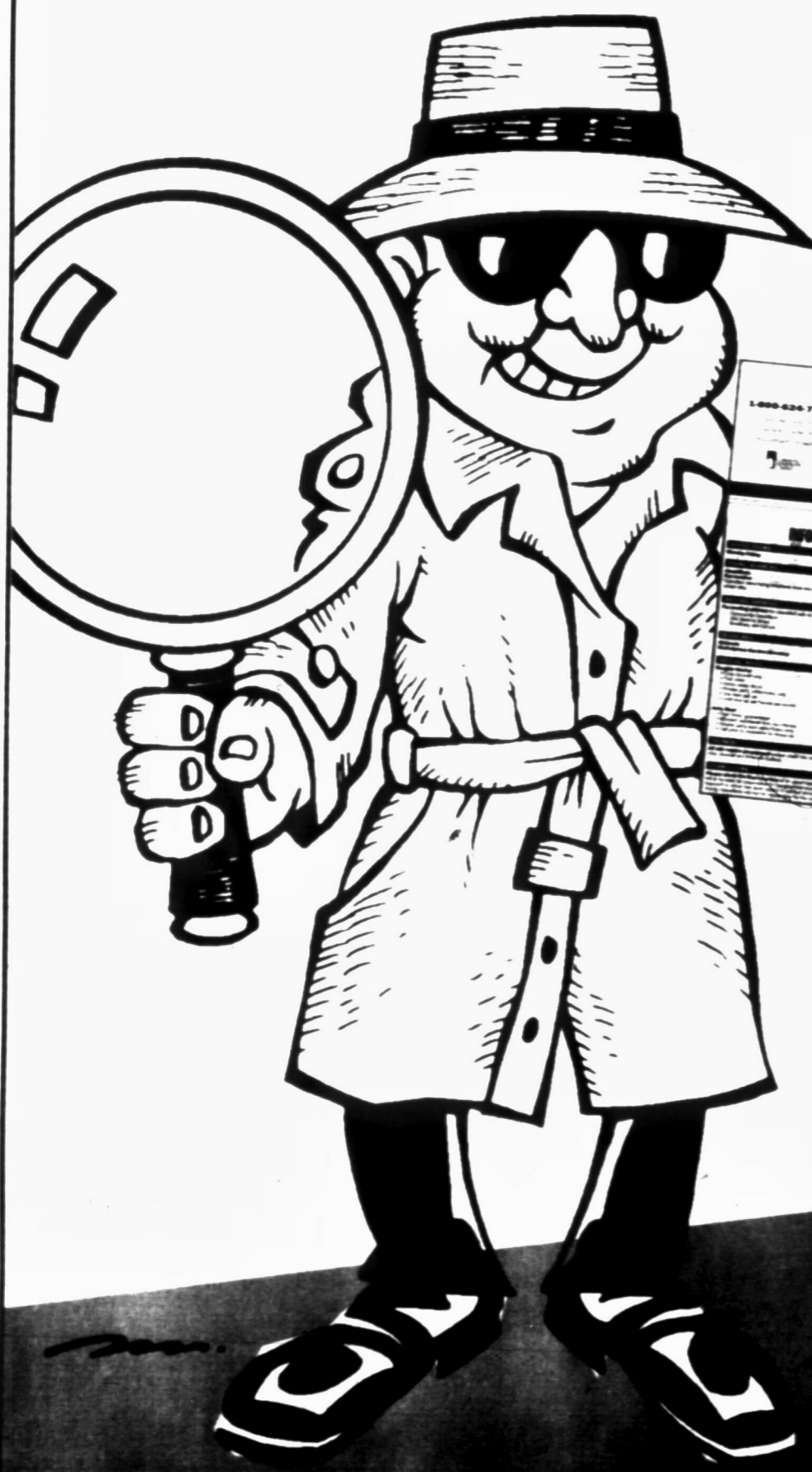
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POLITICS

BEACON HILL ROLL CALL

The House and Senate — There were no important roll calls in the House or Senate last week. BHRC looks at some key bills which are awaiting further legislative action. Bills which have been defeated outright on voice votes without a roll call and bills which are still in committee and have not yet been acted upon by either branch.

HOUSE



James J. Marzilli
D-Arlington
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Room 33



Anne M. Paulsen
D-Belmont
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Room 22



Robert A. Havers III
D-Arlington
(617) 722-1432
Room 513

SENATE

Bills awaiting further action

The following bills are awaiting further House or Senate action:

Military Pensions (S 1620) —

After giving initial approval to a bill exempting military pensions from the state income tax, the Senate requested an opinion from the Supreme Judicial Court on the exemption's constitutionality. Further action on the bill is delayed pending the opinion.

Courthouses (H 4464) —

Governor Weld has sent back to the Legislature the \$685 million bond package for the improvement of court facilities throughout the state. The House and Senate approved the package unanimously in May but Weld objects to a provision mandating that all bids for improvements be awarded only to union contractors. The governor has proposed striking that requirement and the measure now awaits further legislative action.

Salvi Case (S 1698) —

The House and Senate have approved different versions of legislation prohibiting criminal convictions from automatically being "vacated" because the convicted defendant dies before his appeal can be heard. The proposal was filed in response to a court action, following John Salvi's death, which vacated his conviction for murdering two women at an abortion clinic.

Another round of House approval is needed before the House version goes to the Senate for consideration.

Child Pornography (H 4246) —

The House has given initial approval to a bill making the purchase of possession of pornography, involving children under 18, a crime in Massachusetts. Current law prohibits the production, sale or distribution of this type of pornography but does not address possession. Another round of House approval is necessary before the proposal goes to the Senate.

Payroll Tax Hike (H 2236) —

The Senate approved a bill freezing the unemployment insurance premiums paid by employers at least year's level. The House, however, approved a version cutting the \$468 yearly average payment by \$50 to save Massachusetts businesses some \$90 million this year. No agreement was ever reached and as a result, an automatic increase, scheduled years ago, from \$68 to \$520 per employee has now taken effect and is costing businesses millions of dollars. Governor Weld and others have tried to break the deadlock but neither side has been willing to budge.

Bills defeated

The following bills have been defeated by the House on voice votes without floor debate and without a roll call vote:

Graffiti (H 337) —

Requires an immediate one-year suspension of the driver's license of anyone convicted of a graffiti crime. It also prohibits youths under 18, convicted of a graffiti crime, from getting their learner's permit or license until they reach 18. Sponsored by Rep. Mary Jane Simmons (D-Leominster).

Bank Fees (H 440) —

Requires that banks send notices of new fees or changes in fees to affected customers by registered mail. Sponsored by Rep. Michael Ruane

(D-Salem).

State Troopers (H 751) —

Directs that all state police cruisers patrolling at night have two officers in the cruiser. Sponsored by Rep. Frank Hynes (D-Marshfield).

Campaign Contributions (H 3390) —

Prohibits candidates from accepting campaign contributions from anyone, except relatives, who lives outside the candidate's district. Sponsored by Rep. Frank Hynes (D-Marshfield).

Prison Ships (H 3111) —

Requires the use of decommissioned U. S. ships, aircraft carriers and other vessels to be used as prisons. Sponsored by Rep. Mary Jeanette Murray (R-Cohasset).

Paulsen honored by Women's Bar

The Women's Bar Association of Massachusetts (WBA) has named State Representatives Barbara Gardner (D-Holliston) and Anne M. Paulsen (D-Belmont) as its 1997 "Legislators of the Year." The pair were honored at the WBA's Mid-Year meeting and Summer Associates Reception on June 25 at the Boston law firm of Testa, Hurwitz & Thibault LLP.

"The WBA is thrilled to honor Reps. Gardner and Paulsen for their continued support and leadership in the legislature for bills that improve the lives of women in Massachusetts," said WBA President Ellen Kearns. "We believe that the strength and conviction of Reps. Gardner and Paulsen make them role models for all of our legislators."

Gardner is being recognized as a leader on legislation affecting women in prison. She chaired the Commission on Women in the Criminal Justice System and sponsored a comprehensive reform package of education and rehabilitation programs. She is working for federal highway construction funds for training programs for women and minorities, as well as for legislation to fund home visits to the parents of newborns to improve parenting skills and detect early signs of potential abuse. She is a member of the Caucus of Women Legislators and the MetroWest Legislative Caucus. She serves on the National Boards of the Women's Legislative Lobby and the Women's Action for New Directions, an organization dedicated to redirecting military resources toward human and environmental needs.

Paulsen, whose district includes parts of Arlington, is being commended for her concern for the poor, which has led her to work to ensure adequate funding for legal services by both maintaining general support and by increasing funding for programs, including those for battered women. This year Speaker Finneran's proposal to include funds for legal immigrants was a direct result of Paulsen, and Rep. Kay Khan, securing the signatures of 75 House members on the proposal. She serves on the Special Task Force on Welfare Reform, the Poverty Task Force of the Caucus of Women Legislators and the Progressive Legislators Group. She is active in the Mystic River Watershed Association and the Bicycle Coalition of Massachusetts.

With a statewide membership of nearly 1,500, the Women's Bar Association of Massachusetts is the commonwealth's largest professional organization of women attorneys and is the fourth largest women's bar association in the United States.

MEETING MARKEY



Above, members of Arlington Selectman Jack Hurd's family recently stopped in to visit with U.S. Rep. Edward J. Markey, D-Malden, in Washington, D.C. From left are, Lauren, John, Sarah and Jack Hurd, Rep. Markey, and Dale Hurd. Below, Markey greets members of the Disabled American Veterans. DAV State Adjutant Tom Daley, an Arlington resident, is at right. DAV State Commander Alan Bowers is at left, with Markey in the middle.



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OBITUARIES

Sooren Ezekielian

Sooren Ezekielian, of Arlington, died suddenly on Saturday, June 21, 1997 in Richardson, Texas. He was 66.

He was the husband of Alice G. (Amicalian) Ezekielian.

Born in Alexandria, Turkey, he attended Alma White College and Zarephath Bible Seminary. He resided in Arlington for 34 years and was the owner of Arlington Tailoring from 1964 to 1989. He was also a distributor and supplier of Lavash bread for many years.

He was a member of the North Shore Frogmen Diving Club and the Arlington Boys and Girls Club.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his children Armen Ezekielian of Ohio and Bethel Ezekielian-Romvos. He was the brother of Gabriel Ezekielian and Onan Balamian, both of Arlington and Shong Wedissian of California.

The funeral was held at Saville Funeral Home on Thursday, June 26, followed by burial at Mt.

Pleasant Cemetery.

Arrangements were under the direction of Saville Funeral Service Home.

Gloria M. Lauziere

Gloria M. (Ghilardi) Lauziere, 70, of Arlington, formerly of Cambridge, died on Tuesday, June 24, 1997 at Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, after a brief illness. She was the wife of Henry W. Lauziere Jr.

Born in Cambridge on February 6, 1927, she was the daughter of the late Akhille and Georgina (Cortopassi) Ghilardi. She was employed as a clerical worker at Sears Roebuck in Cambridge for 15 years and as a secretary at Porcella Insurance for 10 years. She was a member of the Arlington Senior Citizens.

In addition to her husband, Mrs. Lauziere is survived by four sons, Stephen Lauziere of Tewksbury, Michael H. Lauziere of Ashby, William J. Lauziere of Bedford and Thomas J. Lauziere of

Lynnfield; two daughters, Sandra A. Seabrook of Somerville and Susan T. Hopkins of Everett; two sisters, Clara Frank of Cambridge and Theresa Poisson of Tewksbury; 11 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a sister, Ada Rhodes.

A funeral Mass was held on Saturday, June 28 at the Immaculate Conception Church, in Cambridge. Interment took place in Cambridge Catholic Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Immaculate Conception Church.

Arrangements were under the direction of Keefe Funeral Home Inc., Cambridge.

Daniel H. Uenas

ROCHESTER, N.Y. - Daniel H. Uenas, 81, of Canadice, N.Y., formerly of Cambridge, died Wednesday, June 25, 1997 at Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester.

He was born the son of Olea A. and Henrikke Tonnesen Uenas on December 31, 1915 in Cambridge. He was a retiree of Barbour Stockwell Co. in Cambridge and a member of the Masonic Lodge in Somerville. He was district com-

missioner for the Boy Scouts of America for many years. He was also a member of the Arlington Police Auxillary, the Massachusetts State Guard and the American Red Cross.

He is survived by his wife, Anna "Ginny" of Canadice; his son Eric (Teri) Uenas of Rochester; a sister, Irene (Earle) Sorensen of Winchester; three sisters-in-law, Frances Collins of Bolton, Louise Johnson of South Windsor, Conn., and Marion (Francis) Smith of Dover Foxcroft, Maine; and several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held at the Faith Bible Church, Honeoye, N.Y. on Tuesday. Friends wishing may make a memorial contribution to the Faith Bible Church Deacons Fund, 9041 Route 20 West, P.O. Box 229, Honeoye, N.Y. 14471.

Arrangements by the Kevin W. Dougherty Funeral Home Inc., Honeoye.

Barbara Belknap

Barbara (Hall) Belknap, 79, of Arlington, formerly of Watertown and Allston, died on Saturday, June 21, 1997 at Mariner Health Care at Longwood, Boston, after a brief illness.

Born in Somerville, she has resided in Arlington for 10 years. She was a homemaker. She was the wife of the late Harold A. Belknap.

She is survived by two sons, Steven and Allen; a sister, Ruth Hall of Arlington; a brother, Wilbur A. Hall, of Texas and eight grandchildren.

Services were held in the Lindsey Chapel of the First Church in Cambridge, Congregational on Monday, June 23.

Memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, One Kendall Square, Bldg. 20, Cambridge, MA 02139-1562.

Arrangements were under the direction of Saville Funeral Service, Inc., Arlington.

Alfred H. Clark

Alfred H. Clark, 68, of Nashua, N.H., formerly of Arlington, died on Friday, June 27, 1997 at St. Joseph's Hospital in Nashua after a brief illness. He was the son of the late Thomas and Leticia Clark.

Born in Boston on February 15, 1929, he was an Air Force veteran of the Korean Conflict. He was employed as an accountant for Arkwright Insurance.

He is survived by a sister-in-law, Ann Clark of Quincy and two cousins, Dorothy Coveney of Watertown and Harriet Petrillo of North Easton.

Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Thomas Clark.

A funeral Mass was held in St. Luke's Church on Tuesday, July 1 followed by interment in the National Cemetery in Bourne.

Dorothea M. Buffum

Dorothea M. (Hollis) Buffum, of Arlington, died on Saturday, June 28, 1997. She was 77.

Born in Cambridge, she was the wife of Donald C. Buffum.

Besides her husband she is survived by a son, Donald Jr. of Penfield, N.Y.; a daughter, Barbara Pedersen of Freedom, Penn.; eight grandchildren, and a sister, Lillian Swahnberg of New Hampshire.

The funeral was held on Tuesday, July 1 in the First Baptist Church of Arlington. Interment took place in Belmont Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Diabetes Association, 40 Sreen St., Framingham, MA 01701.

Brown & Sons Funeral Home, Belmont, was in charge of arrangements.

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ARMENIAN CHURCH

Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church. 145 Brattle St., Cambridge. 354-0632. Rev. Mampr Kouzouian, pastor. Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m. until noon; sermon, 11:30 a.m.; Armenian language school, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday School, 10 a.m.

BAHA'I

Baha'i Community of Arlington. Informal discussions of the Baha'i Faith are held every first and third Friday of the month at 8 p.m. Please call 646-3492 for location and information.

BAPTIST

First Baptist Church. 819 Mass. Ave., 643-3024. Dr. George H. Habel, pastor. Services at 9:30 a.m.

Trinity Baptist Church. 115 Mass. Ave. at Amisden Street, 643-4771. Rev. Harold C. Small, D. Min. 9:30 adult bible study, 10:30 a.m.; morning worship (child care provided); 11:10 Trinity Kids Disciple Time; 7 p.m. youth group.

Cornerstone Baptist Church. 54 Brighton St., Belmont, 489-2498. Rev. Roland C. Stan, Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Bible School; 10:45 a.m. Morning Worship; 7 p.m. Evening Service. Nursery available during all services. Wednesday 7:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting. Nursery available.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

First Church of Christ, Scientist. 199 Common St., Belmont, Sunday Service: 10:45 a.m.; Sunday School: 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday meeting, 7:45 p.m.

First Church of Christ, Scientist. Mass Ave. and Waterhouse Street, Cambridge. Sunday Service: 10:45 a.m.; Sunday School, 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday evening meeting, 8 p.m.

First Church of Christ, Scientist. 114 Church St., Winchester, 729-8464. Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday evening meeting, 8 p.m.

CONGREGATIONAL

Park Avenue Congregational (UCC). Park Ave. and Wollaston Ave., 643-8680. The Rev. William A. Albright, Pastor. During July and August, Sunday Worship Service will begin at 10:30 a.m., followed immediately by Fellowship and Refreshment Hour. Infant and small-child care available during Worship Service. Regular schedule of 10 a.m. worship service, Sunday School, Adult Education and mid-week Bible Study and fellowship groups will resume in early September.

Pleasant Street Congregational (UCC). 75 Pleasant St., 643-0553. Rev. Thomas L. Clough, minister. Sunday morning worship 10 a.m.; child care provided (up to age 2).

Sunday School classes for age 2 through junior and senior high. Coffee Hour: 11 a.m.; Choir rehearsal, 11:30 a.m.

EPISCOPAL

St. John's Episcopal. 74 Pleasant St., 648-4819. handicapped-accessible. Rev. David L. Clark, interim rector; Dorene Duane, director of Christian education; Frank Toppa, director of music; Sunday worship: 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist with homily; 9:45 a.m. church school, 10 a.m. family service: Holy Eucharist with sermon and choir. Child care provided. Morning prayer on second Sunday of month.

Church of Our Savior. 21 Marathon St., 648-5962. Sunday, 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist Rite I; 10 a.m. Sunday School; 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II. Summer hours: July 7 through Labor Day: one service 9 a.m.

Coffee hour follows each service. For information about Food Pantry, Recycling Program or Adult Education, call number above.

EVANGELICAL

Covenant Church. Park and Westminster avenues, Arlington, 646-9027. Brian Emmet, pastor. Worship service Sunday 9:30 a.m. with Sunday School and child care provided. Small group meeting throughout the week.

Trinity Covenant Church. 7 Clematis Road, Lexington, 861-0780. Rev. Christopher Haydon. Worship service Sunday, 10:45 a.m.; Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; women's Bible study, 9:30 a.m.; Wednesday: youth Bible study, 7:30 p.m.; Wednesday: men's fellowship, 6 a.m.; Friday.

FRIENDS

Quaker Group in Arlington. a group of Quakers who live in Arlington, members and attenders of Cambridge Friends Meeting, are holding twice-monthly gatherings in their homes. For information contact Mary Gilbert at 646-3760.

GREEK ORTHODOX

St. Athanasius Greek Orthodox Church. 735 Mass Ave., 646-0705. Rev. Dr. Nicholas M. Kastanas, Presbyter. Sunday Divine Liturgy: 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (mid-June to mid-September 9:15 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.). Sunday Orthros Service 8:45 a.m. to 10 a.m. (mid-June to mid-September 8 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.). Sunday Catechetical Church School: 10 a.m.; Weekday Services Orthros 8 a.m.; Divine Liturgy 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Glorious Hope Church. 1205 Rear Mass Ave., Arlington Heights 643-7648. Sunday Worship 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Sunday School 10 a.m.; Wendox Prayer Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Liberty Baptist Independent. 7 Central St., 643-0880. Rev. Richard Watt, pastor. 10:30 a.m. Sunday School and Morning Worship, 7 p.m. Sunday evening; 7 p.m., Thursday, Bible Study.

JEWISH

Beth El Temple Center. 2 Concord Ave., Belmont, 484-6668. Rabbi Jonathan E.

Kraus. Friday evening services: (Sept.-June) at 8 p.m.; Saturday morning service: (Sept.-June) at 10 a.m.; Sunday services: 9 a.m.; morning Minyan: (Monday and Thursday) at 7 a.m.

Temple Isaiah. 55 Lincoln St., Lexington, 862-7160. Rabbi Cary D. Yales and Rabbi Shoshana M. Perry. During July and August all Friday night services are at 6 p.m. All Saturday morning services are at 9 a.m.

Temple Sholom. P.O. Box 373, Winchester, 01890. 665-5752. Rabbi David Kudan. A reform Jewish congregation serving Arlington, Winchester, Stoneham, Lexington and surrounding communities. Family Holiday and Sabbath services in Winchester (first Friday of month) and Stoneham (third Friday of month). Call Temple for weekly location and directions. Religious school information: Joan Forman 863-2430. Membership information: Ronnie Bragen 861-8587 or Ellie Hitzrot 646-1331.

Temple Emunah. Piper Road at Route 2, Lexington, 861-0300. Rabbi Bernard Eisenman, Educational Director, Serene Victor Daily. Services: 7 a.m., 7:15 p.m.; Sunday morning: 9 a.m., evening: 7:15 p.m.; Shabbat Services: Friday evening Erev Shabbat Service 6:15 p.m.; morning worship 9:30 a.m.; Mincha, Rabbi's torah class 5:15 p.m.

Temple Shalom. 475 Winthrop, Medford, 396-3262. Rabbi Bernard Stefansky. Modern conservative synagogue holds Saturday Shabbat services at 9 a.m.; Sunday minyan and breakfast at 8:30 a.m.; Monday and Thursday minyans at 7 a.m.; Friday services 8 p.m. after summer. Hebrew school, preschool through grade 6. Family shabbat services third Saturday of each month for children.

LATTER-DAY SAINTS

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Arlington Ward, 2 Ledgewood Place, Belmont, 489-4125. Bishop Lee R. LaPierre. Sunday Worship: 1 p.m. Sacrament Meeting; 2:20 p.m. Sunday School; 3:10 p.m. Priesthood, Relief Society, Youth. Genealogy library: Tuesday and Wednesday, 7-9 p.m., first and third Saturdays 9 a.m. to noon.

LUTHERAN

St. Paul Lutheran Church. 929 Concord Turnpike (end of Hillside Ave.) Arlington, 646-7773. Pastor: Rev. Ross Goodman. Education hour and Sunday School at 9 a.m.; service at 10:15 a.m. (nursery provided); Holy Communion celebrated the first and third Sundays and on festival days; fellowship, 11:30 a.m.

Calvary Church United Methodist. 300 Mass. Ave., 646-8679. William Coleman, D. Min. Sunday: 10:30 a.m., child care provided. Christian education for all ages at 9:30 a.m. Child care provided.

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

Countryside Bible Chapel. 480 Lowell

Street, Lexington, 862-7513. Communion Service: Sunday, 9:15 a.m.; Morning Worship and Children's Bible Discovery, 10:30 a.m. Nursery care available at all services. Small groups, Bible studies and children's programs during the week.

PRESBYTERIAN

Claenden Hill Presbyterian Church. 155 Powder House Bldg. Somerville. Serving Somerville, Arlington and Medford. Patricia Budd Kepler, Pastor; John Adams, Music Director; 10:30 a.m. Church service, nursery and Sunday School. Coffee hour follows service.

ROMAN CATHOLIC

St. James. 22 Appleton St., 643-0636. Rev. Francis E. Daley. Sunday Masses: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 a.m. Weekday Masses Monday-Friday 9 a.m.; Saturday Masses 4 p.m.

Immaculate Conception. 45 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge, 547-3455. Rev. Arthur F. Wright. Saturday Mass, 4 p.m.; Sunday Mass: 8:30, 10, 11:30 a.m.; Daily Mass will be celebrated at 8 a.m., Monday through Saturday.

St. Agnes. 24 Medford St., 648-0220. Rev. Brian M. Flately. Saturday Mass, 4, 5:15 p.m.; Sunday Mass: 7, 8, 9:15, 10:30 a.m., noon, 5 p.m.

St. Jerome's. 210 Lake St., 648-2506. Rev. James L. Publicover. Daily Mass: 9 a.m.; Saturday Mass: 4 p.m.; Sunday Mass: 8:10 a.m., noon.

St. Eulalia's. 50 Ridge St., Winchester, 729-8220. The Rev. Victor LaVoie and the Rev. James Laughlin. The liturgy schedule is Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m.; Saturday, 4 p.m.; and Sundays, 8 a.m., 10 a.m., noon (contemporary music) and 5 p.m. (Life Teen Mass). Holy day services are 5:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 9 a.m., 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sacrament of reconciliation is on Saturday, 3 to 3:45 p.m. and by appointment. Baptisms are on the second Sunday of each month, 2 p.m.; instruction for parents is the first Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

St. Camillus. 1175 Concord Turnpike, 643-3132. Rev. James E. O'Leary, Pastor. Saturday Mass, 4:30 p.m.; Sunday Mass: 9 and 11 a.m. Weekday Mass: 9 a.m. Confessions: 4 p.m. Saturday and seasonally.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

First Parish Unitarian Universalist. 630 Mass. Ave., 648-3799. Rev. Barbara Whitaker Johns. Congregation welcomes people of all ages, races, religious backgrounds and sexual orientations seeking a spiritual community committed to justice and compassion in human relations. Sunday service, child care and religious education for ages three through high school, 10:11:15 a.m.; coffee hour following service. Adult religious education, elders group, adult and children's choir rehearsals, and other programs during week.

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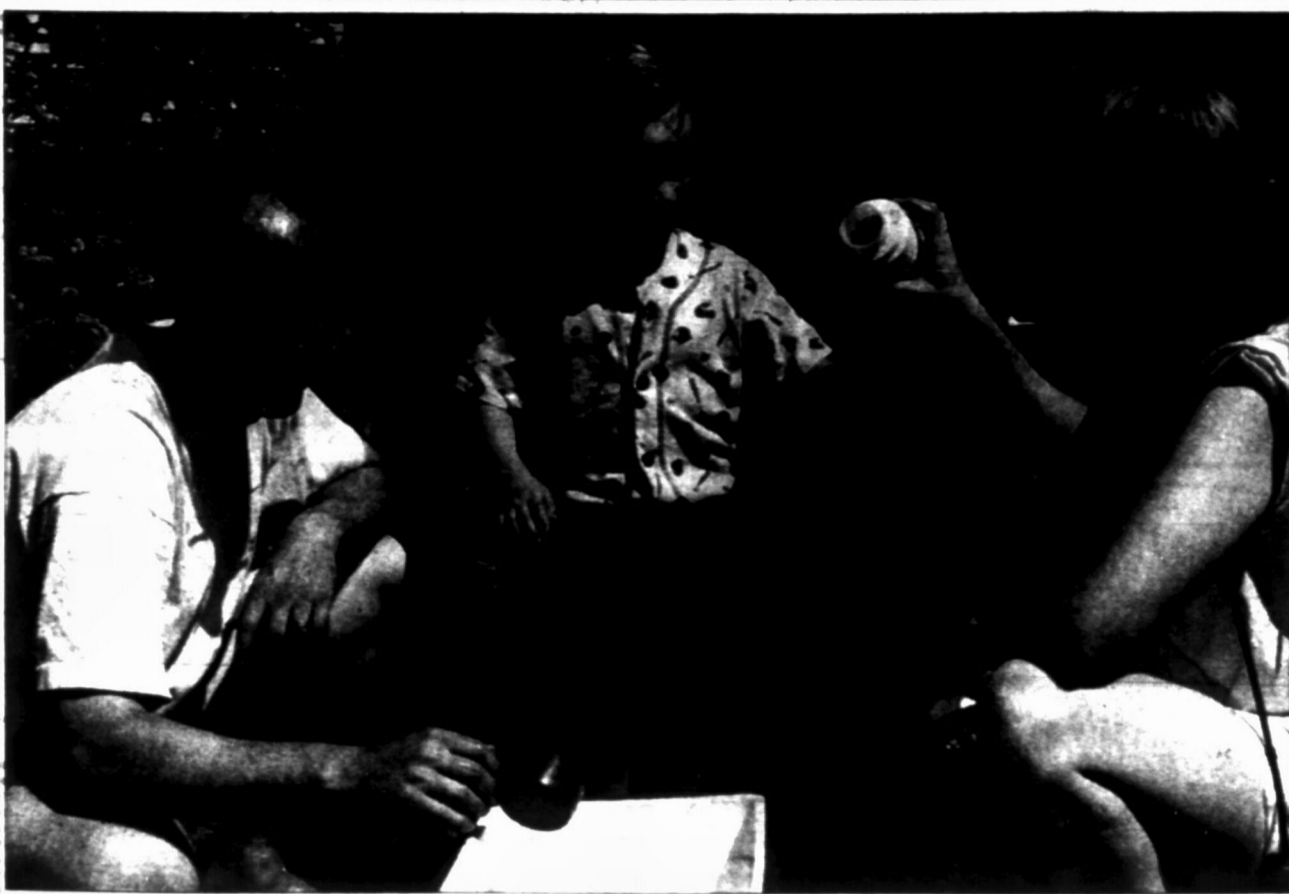
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Jim Vershbow and his wife, Pam, spend some time with their son Patrick during the yard sale they organized to benefit Fragile X research. Patrick suffers from the genetic disorder which is linked to mental retardations.

Parents raise awareness of illness

FRAGILE, FROM PAGE 1

"The family does a tremendous amount of work," Brattle Street neighbor Marcia Lagerwey-Commeret said. "Although the sale wasn't supposed to start until 8, people were here early, and by 7:30 so many people had arrived, they had to let them in."

Lagerwey-Commeret's daughter Karin sought out furniture for her new apartment, but her husband, Tom, had set aside an even larger stack of globes, typewriters and toys for the charter school he runs in Marblehead.

"We came to donate stuff and look what happened," Tom Lagerwey-Commeret said, pointing at their pile of purchases.

"Everyone is very generous about donating because it is a great cause," added Mary Paradis, once a neighbor of Patrick's great-grandparents. Paradis attends every year.

The Vershbows are grateful that their son was diagnosed early, for although the symptoms of this genetic disorder are hard to detect, their consequences are real and last a lifetime. No one can predict how seriously Patrick's development will be affected. His family describes him as an affectionate little boy with a happy disposition, but his comprehension, motor skills, speech and sensory system are developing years behind schedule.

Since his diagnosis, his parents have radically adopted their work schedules so that one can always be

with him. They are delighted that, at 4 1/2, he finally spoke his first words.

Fragile X strangles production of a protein needed for the brain's wiring that is involved in learning and memory. It can cause problems ranging from mild learning disabilities to severe mental retardation, with males more strongly affected than females.

Lacking support by a celebrity, research for fragile-X syndrome is not well funded. Patrick's mother is still surprised that the disorder "is virtually unknown, even in the medical community."

Treatments are many years away and no cure is in sight, but the Vershbows hold out hope that research funded by grassroots events like the yard sale will eventually provide therapies for Patrick.

"The National Institutes of Health will spend \$64.1 million this year for cystic fibrosis research, another genetic disorder," Pamela Vershbow said, "and \$16.7 million on Down's syndrome which affects slightly more children, one in 1,000. But it spends only \$1.8 million on fragile X syndrome."

Pamela and James Vershbow, who now live in Watertown, have joined FRAXA, a national organization that directly funds research projects while working to raise awareness. Its 650 members believe that when children are diagnosed correctly and receive the help they need, more resources will go for research.

Pamela Vershbow's aunt, Kathy Hogan, said the Whitney family has been tested to see which members are carriers. She noted that solidarity around Patrick's problem has made the family even more resolved to help others in need: Leftovers from the sale will be sent to a homeless shelter.

During the first hours of the sale, bargain hunters carried off oil paintings for \$15, a leather sewing machine belt for a Singer treadle machine for 25 cents and an inflatable raft for a dollar. An assortment of children's clothing, sorted by size and strung along the fence, was going fast. Until the sofas were sold out from under them, shoppers sat watching their children search through a 6-foot-high jumble of stuffed animals.

"This family has gone out and said to the community, this is a problem here," said Sandy Pritzky of Wakefield who donated office equipment again this year. "They have enough problems just dealing with the little boy, but they know there is more involved and this is one way something can be done about it."

As shoppers carted out garbage bags filled with treasures, they saw a T-shirt that Pamela displayed at the curb. Its quotation from Margaret Mead printed on the back sums up her family's attitude:

"Never doubt that a small group of totally committed citizens can change the world. Instead, it is the only thing that ever does."

Libby set to retire after 45 years

LIBBY, FROM PAGE 1

Libby said he had many accomplishments during his time as building inspector. He said he worked to issue permits quickly, even though his department was often overworked.

"We would get things out of the office," he said. "We didn't hold people up."

Libby described himself as, "pro-development." Environmental regulations are important, he said, but the community should not impair progress.

"Sometimes when new regulations get some power, they go to the other side of the street," Libby said. "It takes some time to get them back to the middle of the street."

Robert Bowes, owner of Bowes Realtors, described Libby as fair and accessible and credited him with helping to improve development in the town.

"He is someone who will be very difficult to replace," Bowes said.

Bowes said Libby had an un-

usual position being in charge of both zoning and building codes, and he did a remarkable job at it. He said he could stop by Libby's office, and he would always listen.

One part of the community that Libby contends can sometimes impair development is Town Meeting. He said it is a wonderful form of government, but Arlington is a large community and faces issues that need immediate attention.

Libby said situations will arise when property owners need to change the use allowed for their land, but the change requires Town Meeting approval. He said a seven-member council can change a zoning bylaw in a month, but Town Meeting takes a year.

Libby finds public service rewarding but worries today's youth are not interested in working for the public sector. He said the security that drew him to the town government no longer exists because of budget cutting.

Ever since Proposition 2 1/2's tax limits took effect, Libby said, communities have been hurting. Municipal government has been cutting back on its staff, and the pay for public employees is no longer what it should be, he said.

While he praises his employees, Libby said his department does not have the adequate staffing.

He has one employee who is an assistant building inspector and wiring inspector, he said, and another who is an assistant and a plumbing and gas inspector. He said he also has a secretary who carries out the work of an administrator.

He said he could have conducted more on-site inspection of construction if he had the staffing.

Libby said he made many friends working with the town. He said he plans to remain in Arlington and stay in touch with the town employees.

He plans to rest for three months and then return to work as a consultant.

Quick redesign sought for bridge

BRIDGE, FROM PAGE 1

the project.

The committee sent the selectmen a memorandum expressing their interest in a second sidewalk in late February. Marquis wrote a letter to the highway department, saying the town supported the committee's suggestion.

District Highway Director Eric W. Botterman replied that the department's engineers had determined the proposal was not feasible. He said in his letter, the second sidewalk would cost more and delay the project.

He also noted the town did not have sidewalks leading to the bridge on the side for which the committee wanted a sidewalk.

"We haven't looked at what it would cost (for the town) to build a sidewalk up to it," Greeley said at the meeting.

The town lobbied hard to convince the state to replace the bridge, Greeley said, and he worried that if the town halted the project over the design, the state might decide not to go ahead with it. Selectman Stephen Gilligan said the town spent seven years lobbying the state to rebuild the bridge.

Committee member Jack Johnson said the cost of not building a second sidewalk could be a pedestrian dying.

Chachich said he witnessed an elderly lady crossing the existing bridge on the side lacking a sidewalk, carrying groceries in one hand and gripping the guard rail on the other side.

"I would really like to see two sidewalks," Selectman Jack Hurd said. He said he believed the project could be altered without the state having to go out to bid again.

Martha Scott, the Townwide Parent-Teacher Organization copresident and a neighbor, said she could not understand why the department was using the same design the bridge had when it was first constructed 100 years ago.

Marquis said even if the redesign did not call for rebidding, the contractor would miss the construction season by spending time redesigning the project.

He said a year's delay would push back the planned work for the intersection of Massachusetts and Park avenues, because two construction projects in the

same area and at the same time would create too much traffic problems.

The selectmen voted to refer the matter to Marquis. Greeley said they will find a way to add a second sidewalk, short of losing the project. He said they will consider whether the design could be changed, or the sidewalk added after completion of the bridge.

Marquis said afterwards he will accept starting the project in January as long as it finishes before May. He opposes any delay that would interfere with the Heights project planned for next summer.

A year-long delay would also push back the planned replacement of a water main on Paul Revere Road used by the Massachusetts Water Resource Authority and the reconstruction of drainage under Summer Street, according to Marquis.

Chachich argued the bridge project has the longest impact of all the planned projects for the area. He said the bridge is 100-years-old and could last another 100 years with the reconstruction.

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COMMENT

The Birthplace of "Uncle Sam"

Samuel Wilson

EDITORIAL

Reaching out

Eighty-four children from the area around the contaminated Chernobyl nuclear power plant will see America at its most unabashedly patriotic this week. The children arrived last week for a month-long stay with families throughout the area, including homes in Billerica and Chelmsford. After living most of their young lives in the contaminated regions of Ukraine and Belarus, the children suffer from a host of maladies, including thyroid cancer, blood diseases, digestive disorders, diseases of the bones, muscles and connective tissue and stress-related problems.

Coming to the U.S., they will enjoy many of the things we take for granted every day. Good and abundant food, clean air, the freedom to travel and experience the sights and sounds of life in New England. Friday night you can bet these children will be with their host families, watching the rockets exploding overhead and the fireworks flashing and crashing in the sky.

What will these children, ages 10 to 17, think of our quintessential American celebration? Like their first taste of a Big Mac or the novelty of having a seemingly endless supply of fresh fruit on the kitchen table and canned soda in the fridge, the noise and silliness of our Independence Day celebration will probably be something of a blur to these children. But in a curious way, the fact that 200-some years ago this country struck a blow for independence led to our evolution into a society that can reach out to people such as these children of Chernobyl.

There have been times in the past decade when many Americans have wondered why the U.S. has gone onto foreign soil. When 241 American Marines and sailors died in a truck-bomb explosion in Beirut in 1983, we had to ask ourselves why we were there. In Somalia, the deployment of U.S. troops on a humanitarian mission turned quickly into a struggle for American lives when armed Somali factions caught U.S. Army Rangers in the middle of repeated firefights. The cases of American intervention — and the questions raised by our tendency to use troops to do our talking — have been repeated in Panama and Bosnia as well.

So it is refreshing when we reach out the way the families involved in the Chernobyl Children Project U.S.A. have done. We make no pretense that we, as a country, can solve the problems faced by these children and as many as a million others in the contaminated regions of the former Soviet Union. The nuclear catastrophe caused by the explosion at the Chernobyl reactor in 1986 will impact the health of millions of people in that region for generations to come.

Rev. Robert Bowers, a priest at St. Agatha Church in Milton, and the spokesman for the project, does not pretend that the dozens of people involved in the project have all the answers. What they offer these children — the third group in as many years — is a respite from the constant cloud that hangs over their heads. These children receive medical attention while they are here, but more importantly, they experience things they could never imagine in their home countries.

For most of us, tomorrow brings a celebration of the American spirit. That spirit could not be stronger than in the bond formed between these local families and their guests, the children of Chernobyl.

Send us your letters

The Arlington Advocate welcomes letters to the editor on topics of local interest.

Letter writers should be concise and avoid personal attacks. We reserve the right to edit letters for libel and length. Deadline for letters to the editor is noon on Monday for that week's publication.

All letters must be signed and include a telephone number for verification. Telephone numbers will not be published.

Letters may be sent by mail or by electronic mail.

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A local eye on the transfer of Hong Kong

STUART KRUSEL

T-shirts are not only a favorite tourist souvenir, but often display words or images which convey popular thinking. For those currently visiting Hong Kong, a best-selling shirt shows a giant pair of chopsticks picking up the island of Hong Kong with the slogan "The Great Chinese Take Away" ("take away" being the European/Asian equivalent of our "take out"). This humorous, but very pointed, image refers to the handover of Hong Kong from the British to the Chinese that took place July 1.

My wife, Sue, and I were able to buy one of these shirts because we have the good fortune to be in Hong Kong for this historic event. Why did we go? Besides the obvious excitement of taking part in such a historic occasion, we each have our own deeper interests and reasons.

For Sue, a Senior International Sales Representative at MFS Investment Management and a recent graduate with her Master's of Business Administration from Boston College, part of the draw is work on her thesis about doing business in China and Hong Kong. China now ranks as the third largest economy in the world and is among the fastest growing with its per capita in-

come doubling every six to seven years. Hong Kong, with its economy based on capitalism at its most free, is a major trading center in Asia. These are major actors on the world economic stage, so their draw is as strong as a box office hit on a hot summer weekend.

In my case, the chance to observe such a dramatic shift in government at its inception is a perfect opportunity for a self-described political junkie. While the rest of the world has moved from communism to democracy, Hong Kong is at risk of being forced to go in the other direction. As a recent graduate of Harvard University Kennedy School of Government, the pending clash between Hong Kong's democracy and China's communism, despite China's claims of "one country, two systems," is just too interesting to miss.

While this exchange of the last outpost of the British empire is of interest to us, there are others in Arlington for whom China and Hong Kong are even more life defining. Among them are Wendy Chau and Steven Chan.

Wendy, a resident of Arlington, has owned and operated the China Café restaurant at 882A Massachusetts Ave. for almost five years. A native of Fuzhou in China, she arrived in the United

States in 1978, following her father who had arrived ten to 15 years before. She also followed him into the restaurant business, opening her own after working with him since he opened his first one in 1981.

A pleasant woman who is always ready with a friendly welcome, Wendy has returned to China twice, the last time in 1986. She still has relatives there and keeps up with the changes that are happening. Over time she has observed big differences, now even more than in past years. "It is better than before," she says, "there is more chance for opportunity and for growth."

Certainly, the China of today is very different than the China she left. While still maintaining a communist system of government, it has embraced capitalism and opened its economy. Unlike years ago, Wendy would now be able to open a restaurant there and earn the financial benefits which come from taking a chance and working hard. There are greater opportunities for those who seek it, opportunities more like those she and her father have enjoyed in the United States. This may be one reason why Wendy sounds optimistic about the future of both Hong Kong and China. "It will keep growing and keep getting better,"

she predicts.

Steven Chan has a different view based on a different family experience. His parents fled China 30 or 40 years ago, leaving Canton for Hong Kong. "They suffered the first takeover," he states referring to the rise of Mao and the Communist Party. In 1976, at age 17, Steven became the first of his family to leave Hong Kong. Arriving in the United States he achieved another, family first by getting his college degree (Suffolk University). Seven years ago he opened the China Connection restaurant at 1379 Massachusetts Avenue in Arlington.

His parents still live in Hong Kong and he has been back twice to see them. Steven says that being in their eighties and used to the lifestyle, they will not be leaving. The same is not true of many others. "Those who are able to have already left," he states. According to Steven, they have gone to the U.S., Australia and Canada or have gotten their passports so that they will be able to leave if necessary. It is with a certain sadness that he talks about the middle class and the poor who are not so lucky because they lack the means to be able to escape. "They have no choice," he says. "If they [China]

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LETTERS

While not efficient, TM is a treasure

To the Editor:

Shortly after Wednesday, June 18, had become Thursday, June 19, Town Meeting finally ended. While the graybeards may have richer stories to tell, for me this was my ninth edition of our annual spring rite, and without a doubt, the most difficult.

After an experience like this, it would not surprise me if calls were heard for changing our form of government to a more efficient council model to avoid the colossal waste of time and energy Town Meeting represents. I am sure there are frustrated town officials who would welcome such a change.

But let's look at what is really going on. Each year we assemble a representative group of citizens, roughly half a percent of the population, chosen by their neighbors, to make a series of decisions that shape our town. Sometimes there is much heat, little light and abundant verbiage. Always, however, we have people who spend hour after hour, night after night, because they care enough about our community to participate. There are widely divergent views about what we want for our town, but we all share a commitment to be part

of shaping the outcome. In this era of limited time and declining interest, Town Meeting and the collective commitment it embodies is a treasure before which the efficiency of a council pales in comparison. Our New England forbearers created a unique institution for practicing democracy at the local level, and it serves us well.

So over the next 10 months, let's get a good rest. Come the end of April we'll do it all again, justifiably patting ourselves on the back for the profound contribution we are making to preserving Arlington as a true community.

Martin Thrope
Gray Street

It's time to start work on 'Plan B'

To the Editor:

What could be more fitting on July 4 than a victory against a town government that seems to have lost touch with the people? Indeed, given the overwhelming odds against defeating the Proposition 2 1/2 debt exclusion override question on June 10, this will surely go down as the most significant Special Election in Arlington's history.

Much will be said in the coming months about the tactics used by the "Yes" group. We saw the

threshold of decent civic behavior crumble under the weight of winning at all costs. Rachel Prindle of School Street, a probable Yes vote, succinctly summed it up in last week's Advocate letter "let's Not Demonize Those Whose Opinions Differ From Our Own" where she says, "I'm troubled that today people believe that the best way to assure victory on a political issue is to demonize the opposing view. This tactic is particularly offensive in a community that claims to celebrate diversity." "I am of the belief" she continues "that one could vote on the override and still be 'pro-children' and 'pro-education'."

With the Special Election behind us clearly we now need to get down to business and deal with the long-neglected elementary schools. As I speak, a new group called 'The Plan B Task Force' is being formed out of desire to fill the vacuum created by the 'Yes' group. 'Plan B' will be made up of your friends and neighbors who are not widely known. We intend to invite select members of the school infrastructure committee to join with us in crafting a new renovation strategy which we believe would be acceptable to the community-at-large. We especially want present, as a minimum, the

chairman of the Finance Committee and one member each from the Board of Selectmen and the School Committee. Hence, both sides of the questions will be represented on the Plan B task force.

As interested citizens and taxpayers, we have a sacrosanct right to demand more accountability and responsibility of our town officials. But we also have a responsibility ourselves - and that is to remain involved in the issues that are important to the well-being of the residents of our town.

So it is this July 4 that we remember that government should be by and for all the people.

Douglas J. Howard
Kenilworth Road

Arlington Knights came to the rescue

To the Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the Arlington Chapter of the Knights of Columbus, but to say "thank you" doesn't seem to be enough. Their help in arranging for me to get a mini-van with a wheelchair lift, after my car was stolen, has been overwhelming.

I would especially like to thank Dave Coutre, an Arlington res-

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It is the goal of *The Arlington Advocate* to provide our readers with the highest quality local coverage they desire and need, in a newspaper that is accurate, timely and filled with an intimate and lively portrait of the community in which they live, work and play.



COMMENT

Survey: Most parents of school-aged children want full-day kindergarten

BY SHELAGH M. PEOPLES

I would like to respond to the letter by Michele Hassler entitled "Children need shorter days in the beginning" in the June 26 edition of The Advocate. I am a member of the Town-wide Parent Committee that advocates for Full-day Kindergarten. I performed the statistical analyses for the Kindergarten Survey which was part of our proposal presented to the Arlington School Committee on May 27, 1997. I would like to provide Ms. Hassler with a condensed version of the survey results.

There were indeed others like Ms. Hassler who believe that five year olds are too young to attend a full day. However, they were in the minority only 12 percent of those contacted. An overwhelming majority - 80 percent - want a full-day program for their children. The desire for a full-day program remained at 80 percent through the year 1999. Yes, one of the reasons given why they wanted a full-day program was that it would be good for working parents. It is a reality that in the 1990s there are many dual-income families. Undoubtedly, the switch from morning to afternoon kindergarten plays havoc with working parents' schedules. Many of these parents will not have the flexibility in their work schedules - as the Hassler's appear to have - in order to juggle the care for their children.

However, the two most prevalent reasons why parents want a full-day were:

(1) a half-day is too short - many parents found it ridiculous that their preschool child was going to school longer than their sibling kindergarten; and

(2) the frustration many parents felt that teachers did not have enough time to cover the fundamentals.

I think it is unfair and insulting to imply that parents only want it because they need daycare. The need for "daycare" was not the primary motivation determined. The primary reason parent's (whether

dual-income or not) want full-day kindergarten is for the educational value. It is not to be able to say "that their child is in school, rather than daycare."

Not only is Arlington behind neighboring towns such as Belmont, Burlington, Cambridge, Lexington, Medford and Watertown who offer either a three-quarter day or full-day, our half-day is shorter than other town's half-days. The survey results also indicated that 75 percent of the respondent's children were in a preschool setting. This number would be higher but for some of the children being too young to attend preschool. A preschool day is usually three hours long. Children are taking an educational step backwards when they attend a two and a half hour kindergarten day.

I would like to address Ms. Hassler's other concerns over a full-day program.

Benefits of a Full-Day Program:

A part of our proposal to the School Committee was a summary of professional research conducted on the benefits of a full-day versus a half day. Some of these benefits were:

(1) children exhibit more independent learning;

(2) children learn in a less hurried environment;

(3) children exhibit more classroom involvement; and

(4) children have a heightened productivity when working with peers.

Children do need "the chance to grow, learn, socialize and mature slowly" - that's why we need a full-day. It is very distressing to have your child come home and tell you about a project she did at school only to find that she did not have the chance to finish it. The disappointment in your child is palpable.

Space

Full-day kindergarten will start in 1998. In all elementary schools, the sixth grade will have moved to the Ottoson Middle School. There will be ample room in all elementary schools except the Bishop to

have full-day kindergarten in every kindergarten classroom.

Parent-Funding

I absolutely agree with Ms. Hassler that parents should not have to pay for full-day kindergarten - it should be town funded. However, with the debt exclusion failing and the Ottoson Middle School debacle, it is unlikely that Town Meeting members will fully fund full-day kindergarten for 1998. The School Committee voted unanimously on June 27, 1997 to include partial funding in the 1998 school budget. In the interim, parents are willing to fund the program. The survey and subsequent telephoning verified that between 60 and 70 percent of parents are willing to fund the program. Arlington public schools are, in fact, losing many families to private education simply because the town does not offer full-day kindergarten.

Making Full-Day Kindergarten Optional:

It is my understanding that it will be optional. The core curriculum will be covered in the morning with enrichment in the afternoon. Parents who opt out of the program will be able to pick their child up after the morning session.

My View

I am a mother of three girls - 6, 4 and three years old. I do not work. I do not need daycare. I fundamentally believe that a half-day is woefully short. A total of 20 minutes is lost at the beginning and end of each day as children prepare for class and prepare to go home - it takes me 15 minutes to get my three kids outfitted for the wintery walk to school. Imagine the time required for 20 kids! As children go from one learning center to another, another 10 minutes is gone. This leaves approximately two hours to learn the basic prereading and premath skills.

Oh! I forgot. Once a week, for 35 minutes each, children have music, art/library and physical education. These programs are great and should be part of a kindergarten's week. Then, there are special

events. At my daughter's school, one of the events involved a visit from NASA scientists. She loved them and we had a great time learning more about planets with books out of the Robbins library. These programs are a must also, because they inspire, excite and motivate the kids to learn.

But with all this going on - where is the time to learn the basics? If you don't have time to cover the essential prereading and premath skills, then there is something fundamentally wrong.

At heart, it is what you think your child should learn from the year in kindergarten. In my opinion, all children should be able to read by the end of the kindergarten year. This is done in other industrialized countries and I bet it is done in private schools here. I urge the School Committee to request that all children attend full-day at least by after the Christmas break. This will enable the core curriculum to be expanded and improved for all children. I strongly believe that if every child went for a full-day that many of the remedial problems that occur in first and second grade will disappear. Children are sponges. At this age, they can absorb so much information and have such a zest for learning. We need to take advantage of this and provide them with the most educationally challenging environment possible. That can only occur if we have a full-day.

Socialization is important but it is only important to the extent that it helps kids learn to listen to their teacher, cooperate with their peers, and respect each other. There is plenty of time to play after 2:15 p.m. A five year old, after making the transition, is perfectly capable of undertaking the challenges of a full-day. In many respects, it is the parent(s) who are not prepared for the transition - we all know how hard it is to let go and let them grow up.

Peoples, a resident of Radcliffe Road, is a member of the townwide parent committee advocating full-day kindergarten.

The Hong Kong 'takeaway'

HONG KONG, FROM PAGE 8

treats Hong Kong the same as the mainland, they can't do anything about it."

When asked about the "one country, two system" idea, he responds "that is what they say" and acknowledges that there already are two systems pointing to the Canton region which enjoys a large degree of economic autonomy. However, he is careful to point out that there is a difference between economic and political systems. This distinction is important because while Hong Kong may be able to continue to enjoy certain freedoms under a capitalist economy, Steven believes that the people will find their political freedoms severely curtailed. "There will be no representation of the Hong Kong people," he states, "rather China will set policy independent of their wishes. In the end, Steven be-

lieves "it is going to get worse before it gets better."

So as you hear the news reports about the handover, remember to think about the impact it is having on those in your community and their families. Remember that we will be celebrating the independence of our nation and the freedoms we enjoy living in the greatest democracy in the world. As you gather around the grill to enjoy a good ol' American hot dog or hamburger, take a second to think about those on the other side of the world, eating the foods common in their country who do not have the same freedoms and opportunities as us. Let us hope that they find the same good fortune in their 'take away'.

Stuart Krussell is the former chairman of the Massachusetts Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission. He and his wife live in Arlington.

LETTERS

LETTERS, FROM PAGE 8

dent, for all of his help. If it weren't for Dave and everyone else, I don't know what we would have done.

I just wanted the residents of Arlington to know what an outstanding group of men they have in their community.

Please know, from the bottom of my heart, I thank my knights in shining armor.

Mary Lou Conley
Belmont

Last week's letters made good reading

To The Editor:

In the June 26 edition of The Advocate I especially thought three letters were of excellent quality. The letter from the senior citizen was especially poignant concerning the recent debt exclusion vote. How true!

Also, the letter concerning the demonizing of those who voted against the debt exclusion was very understanding and sympathetic. We all are aware of stu-

dents' needs and favor making improvements, but let's be extremely cautious in the manner of executing these plans.

Thirdly, the kindergarten letter in which the writer stated that children at the age of five should have half a day session as in the past.

When my son was two years of age, I had to work. I engaged elderly women to take care of my son at home until he became five-years old. Then he attended kindergarten half a day. Then the woman came for the remaining time until I returned home from work. This plan worked very well.

I was a teacher both at high school level and elementary level.

I think five-year-old children do not belong in a structured learning process a full day.

I applaud these three letter writers. There were several other letters equally as well written and meaningful.

Finally, our beautiful Avenue of Flags has returned in all its glory! I so enjoy it!

Nancy Higgins
High Haith Road

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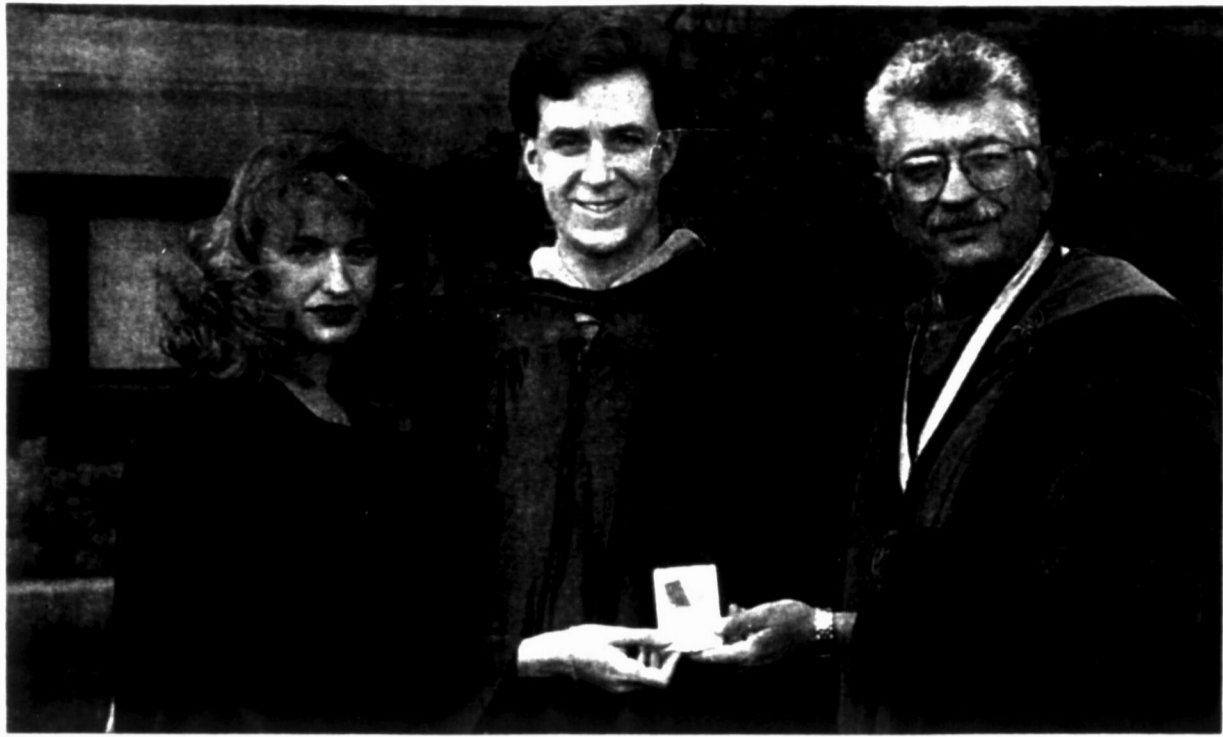
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ARLINGTON

EDUCATION

WITH HIGHEST HONORS



Arlington resident David L. Conti, center, is flanked by Sylvia Taglioni Price, president of the Wentworth Alumni Association, and college president John F. Van Domelen. Conti received a bachelor's degree in computer science systems with highest honors.

SCHOOL NOTES

Locals graduate from Belmont Hill

Mark R. Vernazza, son of Robert A. and P. Jeanne Vernazza of Arlington, in Form VI graduated from Belmont Hill School this year. He will attend Boston College in the fall.

Ernest C. Sabine, son of Ernest C. and Zigrada M. Sabine of Arlington, in Form VI graduated from Belmont Hill School this year. He will attend Columbia University in the fall.

Andrew J. Mingle, son of Joseph J. and Kathleen M. Mingle of Arlington, in Form VI graduated from Belmont Hill School this year. He will attend Georgetown University in the fall.

year. He will attend Georgetown University in the fall.

Ryan G. Davis, son of Joseph and Ann Davis of Arlington, in Form VI graduated from Belmont Hill School this year. He will attend College of the Holy Cross in the fall.

Residents honored at Matignon HS

Matignon High School is proud to announce the following Arlington residents were recently inducted in the Matignon High School Chapter of the National Honor Society.

Class of 1999: Brian Barbosa,

Robert Carabello, Katerina Roussos and Beatrice Yan.

Membership in the National Honor Society is based upon a student's example of the four standards of scholarship, character, leadership and service.

Matignon High School is a Catholic, co-educational, college preparatory high school in Cambridge, founded in 1947 as the first central high school of the Archdiocese of Boston. Matignon aims to provide experiences within a Christian community that will enable students to grow to their fullest capacity intellectually, spiritually, emotionally, physically, and socially.

Three local residents graduate from WPI

Three Arlington residents recently graduated from Worcester Polytechnic Institute. They are:

Tobias Mark Risch, son of Ursula R. Risch, received a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering with honors.

Matthew Liam Weiss, the son of David Weiss and Eunice Wilson, both of Arlington, received a bachelor of science degree in physics.

James Joseph Convery received a master's degree in fire protection engineering.

Arlington students graduate from BC

The following Arlington residents received degrees from Boston College:

Heather A. Devlin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Devlin, chemistry

Katherine M. Driscoll, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Driscoll, English.

Palmer receives degree from MIT

Patricia E. Palmer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William and Ellen Palmer, graduated from Massachusetts Institute of Technology this June. She majored in mechanical engineering and minored in French. She has accepted a position with Allied Signal and will be living in Phoenix, Arizona.

Palmer is an Arlington High School class of 1993 graduate.

Fahy receives recording degree

Martin Fahy of Arlington earned an associates degree in Recording Arts from Massachusetts

COLLEGE NEWS



Tobias Mark Risch



Matthew Liam Weiss

Communications College, Boston, on May 18, 1997.

Kerry L. Fahey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Fahey, finance marketing

Jennifer L. Healy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David A. Healy, marketing

Jeffrey A. Hough, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kevin J. Hough, economics

Michael William Libby, son of Mr. and Mrs. William A. Libby, political science

Michael P. Morris, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Morris, computer science

Matthew C. Moschella, son of Alex and Lee Moschella, psychology

Maureen Smith, daughter of Mr. Robert Smith, accounting.

Bosco graduates

During commencement ceremonies on May 29, 1997, Arlington resident David J. Bosco graduated with honors from Essex Agricultural & Technical Institute's Food Science Program.

The 1993 graduate of Arlington High School compiled a 3.54 cumulative grade point average over his two years at Essex Ag-tech,

which is located in Danvers. Bosco was also awarded the Food Science & Nutrition Department's Faculty Award, which is presented to the program's best overall student.

Couple gets degrees from MBA program

Jill Marie Albertelli and her husband, Nicholas Richard Tomassetti Jr., recently received their Masters in Business Administration at Rensselaer at Hartford Graduate Center.

Albertelli, daughter of Lawrence and Gloria Albertelli of Osceola, Path, Arlington, is a graduate of Arlington Catholic High School and Boston University, College of Engineering. She is employed as a Marketing Manager of the Americas at Pratt and Whitney Eagle Services in Connecticut.

Tomassetti, son of Nicholas and Flora Tomassetti of Chevy Chase, Maryland, attended the Kent School and Clarkson University. He is employed as a Manufacturing Manager at Pratt and Whitney.

Boys & Girls Club activities

It has been another busy week of fun in the sun for the Kids Time children at the Arlington Boys & Girls Club. This week's theme was the ocean.

The children enjoyed making Cheerio starfish, paper plate jellyfish, whales, octopus, sand art and sun visors. The children's favorite activities were playing group games such as "Duck, Duck, Splash", blowing bubbles, drawing and painting and playing with play dough. Some of their favorite songs were "Open, Shut Them" and "If You're Happy & You Know It." The children also enjoyed listening to stories. Some of their favorites were "Homer the Beachcomber" and "The Magic School Bus on the Ocean Floor". All the children enjoyed the trip to the park, playing in the sand and swimming. This week's participants included: T.J. Ahern, Julie Caccavaro, Alice Choukroun, Jason Darnell, Camille Digenti, Ellen Duddy, Conor Dunleavy, Kaitlin Huynh, Julia Imposimato, Richard Jacob, Olivia Lepore, Ashley Leverone, Tommy Leverone, Zachary McLean, Jake Mahon, Mary Rossi and Manah Tinkham.

Blades and Bike Week
Today the summer program of Something for Kids 10-13 started with Blades and Bike week. Something for Kids 10-13 offers weekly sessions in a theme based fashion. Program runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and includes daily activities specially geared for older children along with free swim and games room time.

Monday, the children started in-line skating at the Club. Jamila Copitman wowed the crowd with her expert skating through the obstacle course. Then the children skated down to Magnolia Park and played roller handball. Felipe Estrella showed us his "mad skills" rolling by everyone and scoring time after time.

Tuesday the group rode their bikes to the Arlington Reservoir and enjoyed a quick dip in the water. Tuesday afternoon brought pool games at the Club and Jeff Shaumyan ruled the football catching contest.

Wednesday, the children biked to Lexington Center and enjoyed the day on the bike path. Richard Kurdi and Dan Raia led the group up the path to the Lexington Common. James Garten and Max Jackson ruled the baseball game hitting home run after home run.

On Thursday, club members visited the Watertown Boys & Girls Club. Kathleen Cronin and Angela Chung mastered the waterpolo game and scored more goals than anyone else!

Friday, the children and staff skated along the Charles River to the Esplanade. Travis Harris amazed us with the improvement he had in his rollerblading - considering it was just his 3rd time on rollerblades!

The first week of Something for Kids 10-13 has been a blast and we look forward to Trip Week, July 7th - 11th.



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